



April 13, 2015

Spring Conference Materials

Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in the 2015 Spring Conference. We heard a lot of positive feedback! If you missed it, or want to reference any of the materials that were presented, please view all of the [handouts and materials online](#). A couple of follow up notes:

- The presentation on monitoring solicited some additional questions in the evaluations. We will be clarifying the policy in the state plan around self-monitoring to include some instruction on our expectations.
- We will continue to discuss the outreach ideas with our partners, stakeholders and locals and try to take into account your suggestions when planning outreach efforts.
- Since April is a time study month, the time in Helena will be listed under: Administration, Admin Education, Training and Travel. I hope this helps with your time tracking.

Reports Available

[Benefits Issued & Redeemed Report February 2015](#)

[Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Report March 2015](#)

[Participation Report March 2015](#)

WIC Futures Study Group

On April 1, 2015 the WIC Futures Study Group had a face to face meeting in Helena, MT. Please review the [meeting minutes](#) and [presentation](#).

Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program Annual Report

The annual report of program operations and activities for current local Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Programs is due May 15, 2015. The time frame of the report covers May 1, 2014, to April 30, 2015. Information for this report is used for a required submission with our application for a WIC grant (we submit the State Plan and various attachments as our application). Reports may be submitted as attachments to an email or regular mail. If you have questions, please contact Chris at 1-800-433-4298 or cfogelman@mt.gov.

Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program New Applications or Changes to Current Operations

Applications for new service areas for the Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program or changes to an existing service area's operations (such as added area or how services will be provided) will be accepted for review through close of business on Monday, June 1, 2015. Please review Policy 7.2 Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program. If you have questions, please contact Chris at 1-800-433-4298 or cfogelman@mt.gov.

Benefits with No Signature

To clarify from the Spring Conference, stores should still call your offices and ask you to call participants to attempt to get a signature. If the participant does not come back within ten days, the store should send the benefit to Leah at the State Office, along with the [Missing Signature Form](#) located on page 52 of the Retail Reference Manual (available online in the Retailer Section). If you have any questions about this process, please contact [Leah Steinle](#).

Administrative Reminders

[Forms/brochure orders](#) are due today and this is your LAST CHANCE to get the order in. Remember to enter your complete contact information at the top of the form: Your Region, Your name, the Date and Your Email and return to [Mark Squires](#). The next order will be Oct 15th, 2015.

Every time you receive a formula order Please remember to email Mark Squires immediately and include product name and the amount received.

VENA Webinar

The next VENA webinar will be on April 29th from noon-1:00pm. Oregon and Arizona will be presenting [Hitting the Mark: Putting VENA Into Action](#). If you attend and submit the [appropriate CEU form](#) to [Chris Fogelman](#), you will receive one WIC credit.

Extras, Extras!

If you have WIC "freebies" like grocery bags or water bottles that you don't need anymore, please [email Leah](#). On the other side of the coin, if you would like additional materials, please [email Leah](#). If any are available, she will put appropriate agencies in contact. Thanks!

Local Agency Outreach Tip of the Month

The April outreach idea is to reach out to any and all websites/masters in your area and request to have your WIC program included on them. Ideas include county and or city government websites, health department websites, hospital websites, food banks, shelters, doctors, dentists, other health care providers, etc. that have a website – let them help you grow your WIC participation! Asking is all it takes sometimes.....

Purchased Human Milk Study, from *Pediatrics*

The journal *Pediatrics* has [released a study](#) assessing the DNA of human milk samples anonymously purchased online. Read about the results of testing for 1 WIC CEU.

Free Cheerios Books

Judy Jost, the representative from General Mills who provided the bags/cereal samples at the training has some product information for local WIC agencies and encourages clinics to request the free cheerios books from the [Bell Institute of Health & Nutrition](#). The site will ask you to register, then go to the WIC tab for nutrition and promotional materials for WIC.



Help us keep the distribution list updated - send e-mail address changes, additions and deletions to the WIC State Office at 1-800-433-4298.

A copy of all newsletters can be found on the [WIC website](#)
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